SASKATOON
BLADES
HOCKEY CLUB

SOUVENIR YEAR BOOK

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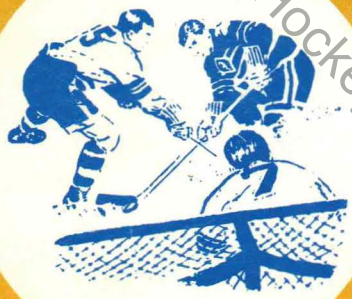

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the saskatoon blades hockey schedule 1974-1975

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HOME SCHEDULE

OCT.	6	Sun.	Medicine Hat
	11	Fri.	New Westminster
	13	Sun.	Kamloops
	27	Sun.	Calgary
	29	Tues.	Lethbridge
NOV.	1	Fri.	Medicine Hat
	3	Sun.	Regina
	8	Fri.	Edmonton
	10	Sun.	Winnipeg
	15	Fri.	Flin Flon
	17	Sun.	Edmonton
	19	Tues.	Victoria
	26	Tues.	Kamloops
DEC.	3	Tues.	Flin Flon
	8	Sun.	Regina
	15	Sun.	Victoria
	17	Tues.	Lethbridge
	20	Fri.	Victoria
JAN.	3	Fri.	Winnipeg
	7	Tues.	Calgary
	12	Sun.	Regina
	17	Fri.	Kamloops
	19	Sun.	New Westminster
	26	Sun.	Winnipeg
	28	Tues.	Lethbridge
FEB.	9	Sun.	Flin Flon
	14	Fri.	Brandon
	16	Sun.	Regina
	18	Tues.	Calgary
MAR.	7	Fri.	Regina
	9	Sun.	Brandon
	11	Tues.	Brandon
	14	Fri.	New Westminster
	18	Tues.	Medicine Hat
	28	Fri.	Edmonton

AWAY SCHEDULE

OCT.	3	Thurs.	Flin Flon
	4	Fri.	Flin Flon
	18	Fri.	Edmonton
	19	Sat.	Medicine Hat
	20	Sun.	Lethbridge
	22	Tues.	Calgary
NOV.	12	Tues.	Regina
	22	Fri.	Edmonton
	23	Sat.	Medicine Hat
	24	Sun.	Lethbridge
	29	Fri.	Brandon
DEC.	1	Sun.	Brandon
	6	Fri.	Regina
	13	Fri.	Brandon
	14	Sat.	Winnipeg
	22	Sun.	Calgary
	26	Thurs.	Kamloops
	28	Sat.	Victoria
	29	Sun.	New Westminster
JAN.	1	Wed.	Kamloops
	10	Fri.	Regina
	24	Fri.	Lethbridge
	25	Sat.	Medicine Hat
	30	Thurs.	Edmonton
	31	Fri.	Calgary
FEB.	1	Sat.	Kamloops
	21	Fri.	New Westminster
	22	Sat.	Victoria
	23	Sun.	New Westminster
	25	Tues.	Victoria
	28	Fri.	Regina
MAR.	16	Sun.	Regina
	21	Fri.	Winnipeg
	22	Sat.	Winnipeg
	25	Tues.	Flin Flon

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEAGUE PRESIDENT

Major Junior Hockey has come a long ways in the past few years, and I am delighted as the President of the Western Canada Hockey League, to say thank you to you, the fan, for the faith you have shown in our product.

The Western Canada Hockey League, in my estimation, finally arrived when the Regina Pats captured the Memorial Cup, the most prestigeous honor available in Major Junior Hockey in Canada. To the entire Regina Pat organization, I offer my congratulations for a job well done.

The 1974-75 season will see a new city in our league, with the transfer of the Swift Current Bronco Franchise to Lethbridge, and I am confident that Lethbridge will be a great addition to the W.C.H.L.

The past season saw new attendance figures reached in our League, and I am sure that with the exciting brand of hockey that will be played in the upcoming season, that you, the fan, will be given a chance to watch the future stars of tomorrow in the N.H.L. and W.H.A.

We trust that you will continue to patronize our League and tell your friends of the exciting, high-calibre of hockey that is taking place here in your local arena by the twelve teams in the Western Canada Hockey League.

Ed Chynoweth
President

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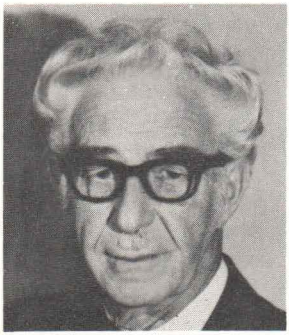
JIM PIGGOTT — OWNER



One of the elder statesmen of the W.C.H.L. hockey scene, Jim Piggott maintains a keen interest in league affairs and more specifically his own club — the Saskatoon Blades. Although not interfering with those hired to operate the club, he is alert to all matters that might affect its successful operation. He has been associated with hockey at various levels for many years so is well known throughout the country and respected by hockey people for his contributions on decisions of major importance.

Saskatoon hockey fans are indebted to Jim Piggott for being the one responsible for maintaining a source of good winter entertainment in the city over many, many years, some of these in which the average individual would have thrown in the sponge. However he is no average individual. His love for the game and his persistence to succeed in anything that he is involved in has resulted in the present club — a club which is enjoyed and respected by fans not only in Saskatoon and district, but in all the centers in the league.

One of his dreams to win a Memorial Cup almost came true two years ago when the Blades won the Eastern Division championship only to lose out in the finals to the Medicine Hat Tigers. However he is not one to give up after a set back, and continually keeps his sights set high for his club to bring home all the marbles.

Jim spends some time in the warmer climates of the south in the winter but other than that is usually at his desk in Saskatoon where he keeps a close rein on the hockey club and Piggott Construction Ltd.

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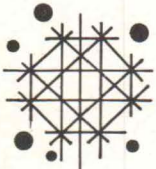

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COACH AND GENERAL MANAGER

JACK McLEOD, one of the best known hockey people in the country is at the helm of the Saskatoon Blades for his fifth season. He was lured to the Blade organization by Jim Piggott in the 1969-70 season, and as he planned, built the team up in three seasons to win the Eastern Division championship with a record 103 points.

The '73-'74 season was a re-building year for McLeod, having lost eleven players through graduation, but he still managed to guide the Blades to a play-off berth — a feat he has accomplished with the local squad every year.

After graduating from Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Jack played junior hockey for the Moose Jaw Canucks before turning pro with the New York Rangers in 1948. He spent three seasons with the N.H.L. club, then seven years between the Vancouver Canucks and the Saskatoon Quakers in the Western Hockey League before going to Canada's National team. McLeod spent five years as general manager-coach with the Nationals until the team was disbanded in 1970.

With his many years of varied hockey experience, his know-how on the theory of the game, and his knack of getting the most out of his players, Jack is always expected to come up with a strong contender in the league. This year is no exception as he has assembled a team which in the early going has shown that it can handle all comers. Fans are already looking ahead to play-off time when they feel the Blades have a good chance to go all the way.

Jack and wife Bev, now having disposed of their home and business in Swift Current have taken up permanent residence in Saskatoon. They have two children — Don 21, and Patti 12.

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ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Roy Will is the seldom heard, seldom seen individual who works behind the scenes in the Blade organization as the assistant general manager.

Roy, in his fourth year at the position, was the first president of the Olympics, and was a strong driving force behind the club which eventually led to close co-operation between the Blades and Olympics.

Prior to taking on the full-time job with the Blades, Roy was a businessman in Saskatoon for 12 years. Some of his duties and responsibilities with the Blades include handling most office correspondence, he's in charge of season tickets, board and room for the players, and he looks after the programs, including the sale of advertising, lineups and sale at games. Other chores include arranging of minor officials for games, public relations, statistics, handling Olympics' financing, promotion for both clubs, liaison between the Blades and the Booster Club as well as accounting for cash coming into the office.

Roy also single-handedly puts out the yearbook, and did all the writing with the exception of this profile.

Roy is married with three children — Bob, Brian and Diane, and wife Marilou looks after program sales and the souvenir booths on nights of home games.

Roy's outside interests include golfing and playing piano, and lately has shown a keen interest in the study of psycho-cybernetics, the power of positive thinking. He is known to spend an hour each night thinking of the Memorial Cup, and it doesn't hurt Blades to have a positive attitude with that regard. His thinking may not be that far fetched this season.

BLADES TRAINER

ALEX KUZMA — A very important cog in the Blade machine during the hockey season is trainer Alex Kuzma. A native of this city, 'Ax' started his hockey career with the Junior Quakers, then played professional with Saskatoon, Seattle and Victoria of the old Western Hockey League before returning to his home town where he completed a successful playing career with the Senior Quakers. He played pro at the same time as coach Jack McLeod, and 'Shake' often reminds 'Ax' how handy he used to be with the stick.

In the off season, Alex is a competent stone mason, so he is one member of the Blade club who comes to camp in pretty good shape. This is his sixth season as Blades trainer making him very familiar and capable in this position. He is a good card player, possesses a dry sense of humor, and hits a pretty fair golf ball. Alex and his wife, Kae have two sons — Frank and Ron. As Ronnie is now attending school, 'Ax' only has his helper on a part-time basis.

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DR. PAT BOBYN — Team Doctor

Involved in a medical way with hockey teams for a dozen years, Doctor Bobyn is one of the best in the business when it comes to diagnosing and treating athletic injuries. He is the first one to rush to the scene of an injured player, but being a lover of good, clean hockey, would prefer to remain in the stands as just another spectator. Although respected by the players, Doc maintains an excellent rapport with them due to his good sense of humor and quick wit. An ardent golfer and skiier, Doctor Pat and wife, Holly have five boys, one of whom has cracked the Junior Hockey lineup this year with the Saskatoon Olympics. Dr. Bobyn has been looking after the aches and pains of the Blade players for the past six years.

DR. BOB RACINE — Team Dentist

One who is becoming very familiar around the Blade organization is the team dentist — Dr. Bob Racine. He has filled this role now for a number of seasons and gets to know the players in an intimate way either at his office or at the rink where he often dons the blades and has a whirl with the boys. He is most concerned with the health and fitness of the Blade players and he is one fellow who practices what he preaches.

A local product, Dr. Bob was always interested in hockey having played in the Saskatoon Minor system for a number of years before graduating from City Park Collegiate. He obtained his degree in dentistry from the University of Alberta in 1967 and fortunately for the Blades at least, returned to Saskatoon to practice his profession.

A Kinsmen member, Bob is married, and he and wife Barbara have three daughters.

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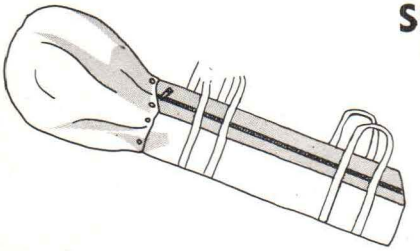

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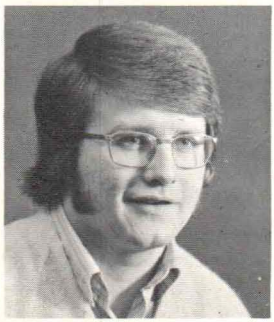

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THE SASKATOON BLADE BOOSTER CLUB

Back Row (standing): Paul Wiwchar, Dennis Mahon, Bill Sherwin - director, Wayne Bowling, Terry Kent - director, Don Young.
Middle Row (seated): Jack Harris - director, Ray Hebb - secretary, John Bloski - president, Don Cozine - vice-president, Wes Mallett - treasurer.
Front Row (seated): Clint Sample, Bert Grylls, Klaus Traeger.
Missing: Joe Reich, Gerry Robinson, Al Wrubell.

The Saskatoon Blade Booster Club is in its fourth year of operation and we are looking at the 1974-75 season with enthusiasm and optimism.

The Booster Club membership consists of a group of hockey fans, who are dedicated to promoting the Saskatoon Blades and minor hockey in general; in the city of Saskatoon.

Our promotion of the Blades does not include financial assistance to the hockey club, but does include such activities as our post-game shows throughout the season, chartered bus trips to away games, Christmas party for the players, our annual awards nite, which continuously becomes bigger and better, just to name a few.

Our promotion of other levels of minor hockey is of a financial nature and is made possible through our varied fund raising projects throughout the season. This past summer the Booster Club sent 5 bantam age hockey players to an all expense paid hockey camp for one week. It is our hope that with the help of the Saskatoon fans in our projects throughout the season, we will be able to again assist some young hockey player in some way.

The Booster Club members are available at all the games. We would be only too happy to try and answer any questions that the Saskatoon fans may have, whether the subject be on hockey or otherwise. We are conspicuous in our powder blue outfits — so do not hesitate to approach a member.

The 1974-75 Blade Hockey Club has in the early stages of the season proven that they will be a team to be reckoned with. It is the firm intention of the Saskatoon Blade Booster Club to assist this fine organization in anyway possible to realize the ultimate goal of Canadian Junior Hockey — The Memorial Cup.

J. Bloski, President

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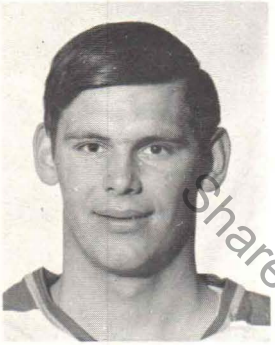
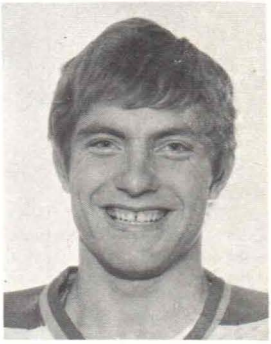
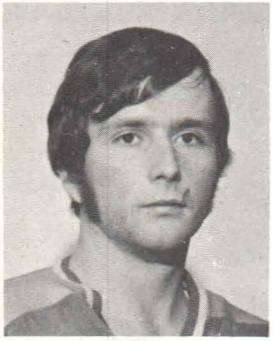


Bill Hjat
Buffalo Sabres (N.H.L.)

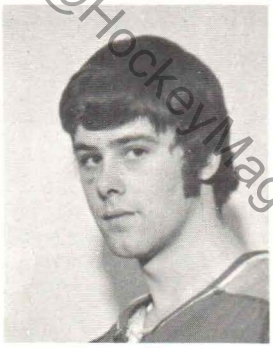
Orest Kindrachuk
Philadelphia Flyers (N.H.L.)



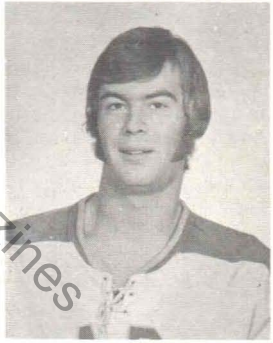
Lawrence Sacharuk
St. Louis Blues (N.H.L.)



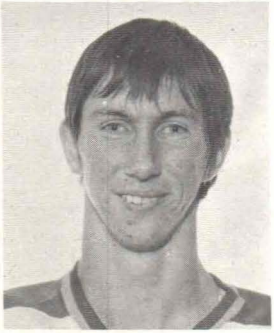
Dave Lewis
New York Islanders (N.H.L.)



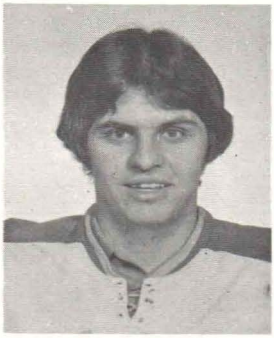
Murray Myers
Vancouver Blazers (W.H.A.)



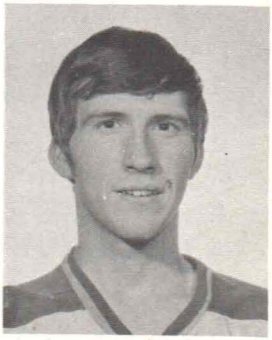
Russ Walker
Cleveland Crusaders (W.H.A.)



Bill Laing
Edmonton Oilers (W.H.A.)



George Pesut
Cal. Golden Seals (N.H.L.)



Ed Humphreys
Vancouver Blazers (W.H.A.)

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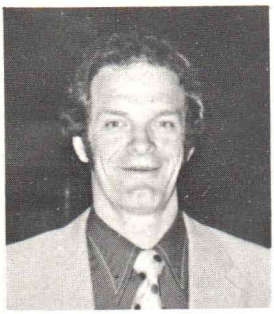
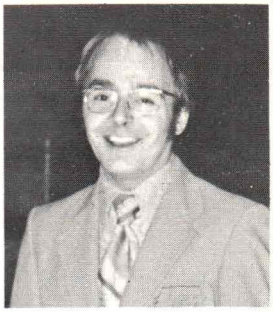


Daryl Lubiniecke
Olympic Coach

Gerry Valade
Olympic Manager



Barry Tarala
Olympic Trainer

THE SASKATOON OLYMPICS

Shared by @HockeyMagazines

The lifeblood of a hockey team at any level lies in its development system. Blades No. 1 source of players is the Saskatoon Olympics, who play in the S.A.J.H.L. Operated by the Blades, this club is now in its fifth season as a member of the thirteen team provincial Junior A League. Composed mainly of local boys, the Olympics have held their own in a league where many of the competing teams have older players. The idea is of course to develop younger boys for future spots in the Blade lineup.

The system has worked out extremely well in the last few years as many former Olympic players have made the step up to the parent club and some have now graduated from the Blades into pro-ranks. Ed Humphreys, Lowel Ostlund, Ron Ashton and Brian Holderness are examples of these. Others who have worn Blade uniforms are John McIvor, Garth Deitrick, Rob Chapman, Ken and Dan Arndt, Dell Chapman, Wes Peters, Kelly Milford, Peter Goertz, Bryan Baron, Bruce Hamilton, Brian McGregor, Brian Schnitzler, Dale Johnston and Rick Smith.

Daryl Lubiniecki, now in his third season as coach of the O's, is doing a fine job developing the younger players to the point where they can step right into the Blade lineup. Further continuity is maintained this year on the club with the return of manager Gerry Valade and trainer Barry Tarala.

The Olympics have made their league playoffs for the past number of years, and this season should be no exception from early indications. Good co-operation between the O's and parent Blades makes it easy to shuttle players back and forth in case of injuries.

The Olympics look to the Saskatoon Blazers, an All-Star Midget team as their main source of new players each year. The Blazers represented our province last spring in the Dominion Wrigleys Midget Tournament held in Oshawa. They have their sights set on this tournament again this season. The Blazers are handled by Ken Ashton, Herb Anweiler and Bill Seymour.

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Mgr. — Bill Shinske

Calgary Centennials
Colors — Red, White & Blue
Rink — Corral
Capacity — 8,000
Gen. Mgr.-Coach — Scotty Munro

Regina Pats
Colors — Blue & White
Rink — Exhibition Stadium
Capacity — 5,000
Gen. Mgr. — Del Wilson
Coach — Bob Turner

Edmonton Oil Kings
Colors — Red, White & Blue
Rink — Edmonton Gardens
Capacity — 5,200
Manager — Zane Feldman
Coach — Ken Hodge

Saskatoon Blades
Colors — White, Blue — Gold
Rink — Arena
Capacity — 4,500
Gen. Mgr.-Coach — Jack McLeod

Flin Flon Bombers
Colors — Maroon & White
Rink — Whitney Forum
Capacity — 2,700
Gen. Mgr.-Coach — Mel Pearson

Lethbridge Broncos
Colors — Gold & Green
Rink — Sportsplex
Capacity — 5,000
Gen. Mgr. — Bill Burton
Coach — Earl Ingarfield

Kamloops Chiefs
Colors — Green & White
Rink — Memorial Arena
Capacity — 2,500
Gen. Mgr. — Ephram Steinke
Coach — Harvey Roy

Victoria Cougars
Colors — Red, Black & White
Rink — Memorial Arena
Capacity — 5,200
Gen.Mgr.-Coach — Pat Ginnell

Medicine Hat Tigers
Colors — Orange, Black, White
Rink — Arena Convention Centre
Capacity — 4,500
Mgr.-Coach — Jack Shupe

Winnipeg Clubs
Colors — Red & White
Rink — Winnipeg Arena
Capacity — 10,200
Gen. Mgr. — Gerry Brisson
Coach — Murray McPherson

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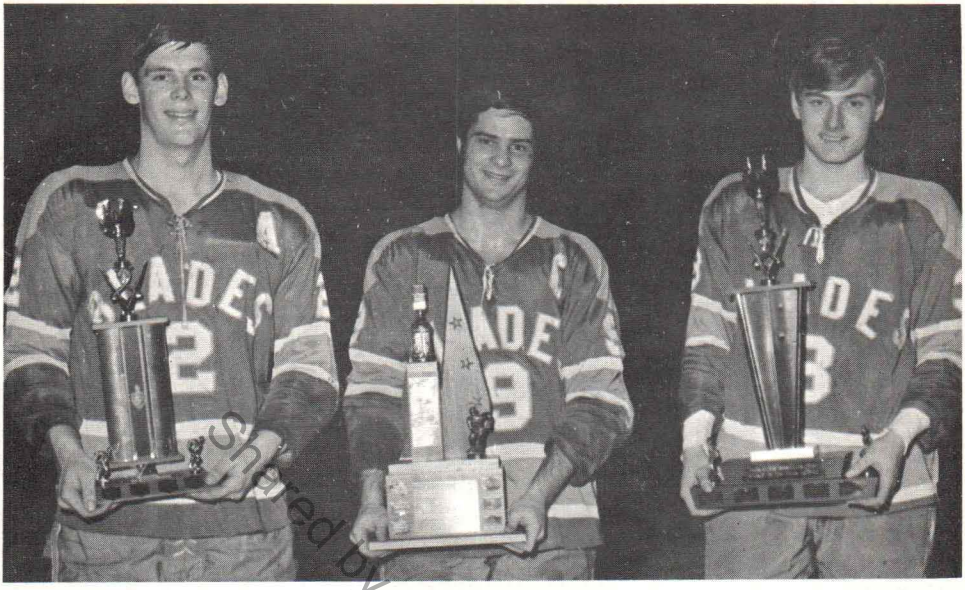
1970-71 Blade Trophy Winners — Now Performing in the Big Leagues



Bill Hjat
Buffalo Sabres

Orest Kindrachuk
Philadelphia Flyers

Pat Price
Vancouver Blazers

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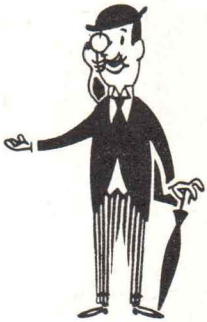

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SASKATOON BLADES H

Back Row (standing, left to right): Rick Smith, Brian Ireland, Blair Chapman, Bernie Federko, Wes George, Rob Chapman, Glen Leggott.

Centre Row (standing, left to right): Gordie Williams - stick boy, Dr. Bob Racine - club dentist, Wes Peters, Dell Chapman, Neil Hawryliw, Kelly Milford, Ralph Klassen, Fred Williams, Ron Valade, Dr. Pat Bobyn - club doctor, Alex Kuzma - trainer.

CKEY CLUB — 1974-75

Front Row (seated, left to right): Bob Hoffmeyer, Roy Will - Assistant General Manager, Randy Ireland, Bill Oleschuk, Jack McLeod - General Manager-Coach, Dan Arndt.

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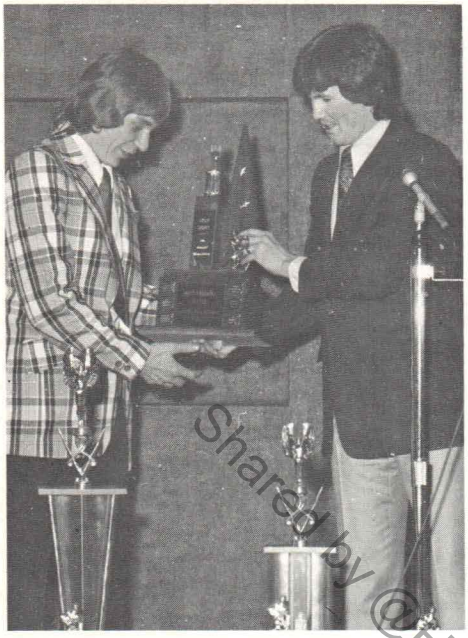
Blade Trophy Winners — '73-74 Season



Ralph Klassen receiving Most Valuable Player Trophy from CKOM's Tom Christian.

Blair Chapman accepting Rookie of the Year Trophy from Ron Wallace of Prairie Sports College.

Dan Arndt receives the Kanon Most Gentlemanly Player Trophy from Ed Adamson of Simpsons-Sears.

Booster Club President Keith Hein presents the Most Improved Player Trophy to Ron Ashton.

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1973-74 BLADES STATISTICS

	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
Pat Price	67	27	68	95	147
Dan Arndt	68	42	39	81	33
Ralph Klassen	68	23	54	77	110
Bob Bourne	63	29	42	71	41
Blair Chapman	56	36	28	64	61
Garth Dietrick	61	18	33	51	61
Bernie Federko	68	22	28	50	19
Neil Hawryliw	52	23	20	43	28
John McIvor	66	16	24	40	92
Fred Williams	67	16	20	36	46
Ron Ashton	65	8	20	28	232
Glen Leggott	66	4	17	21	61
Ron Valade	37	5	14	19	6
Ken Arndt	64	7	9	16	8
Bob Hoffmeyer	62	2	10	12	198
Marty Feschuk	65	3	5	8	93
Rob Chapman	68	0	3	3	28
Darryl Roach	12	1	1	2	4
Brian Ireland	2	0	1	1	0

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The Saskatoon Blade Booster Club hosted a most impressive awards banquet held at the Centennial Auditorium, at which time trophy presentations listed on these pages were made. The affair was attended by over 200 fans and parents, some from as far away as Nelson and Kelowna, B.C. Wally Cameron, Blades play-by-play announcer was the M.C. for the evening which was one of the highlights of the '73-74 season.

The Dr. Pat Bobyn Trophy being presented by the donor to Pat Price — Blades Top Point Man.

W.C.H.L. 1973-74 TOP TWENTY SCORERS

	G	A	Pts.
1. Ron Chipperfield - Brand.	90	72	162
2. Dennis Sobchuk - Reg.	68	78	146
3. Mike Rogers - Calg.	67	73	140
4. Al Hillier - F. Flon	30	108	138
5. Terry Ruskowski - S. Cur.	40	93	133
6. Rick Bliaht - Brand.	49	81	130
7. Danny Gare - Calg.	68	59	127
8. Jerry Holland - Calg.	55	65	120
9. Ed Johnstone - M. Hat	64	54	118
10. Clarke Gillies - Reg.	46	66	112
11. Brian Trottier - S. Cur.	41	71	112
12. Dave Williams - S. Cur.	52	56	108
13. Ken Gassoff - M. Hat	36	72	108
14. Rob Watt - F. Flon	59	47	106
15. Ron Greschner - N. West.	33	70	103
16. Dale McMullen - Brand.	35	65	100
17. Randy Andreachuk - Kam.	49	48	97
18. Ray Maluta - F. Flon	40	57	97
19. Barry Dean - M. Hat	23	73	96
20. Brad Anderson - Vic.	47	48	95

FINAL STANDINGS — 1973-74

	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Eastern Division						
Regina Pats	43	14	11	377	225	97
Flin Flon Bombers	34	21	13	322	259	81
Swift Current Broncos	35	24	9	340	306	79
Saskatoon Blades	30	29	9	283	272	69
Brandon Wheat Kings	27	37	4	305	348	58
Winnipeg Clubs	23	38	7	258	338	53
Western Division						
Calgary Centennials	41	18	9	328	236	91
New Westminster Bruins	36	21	11	284	250	83
Medicine Hat Tigers	29	31	8	305	314	66
Edmonton Oil Kings	25	36	7	252	301	57
Victoria Cougars	22	40	6	259	336	50
Kamloops Chiefs	13	49	6	248	376	32

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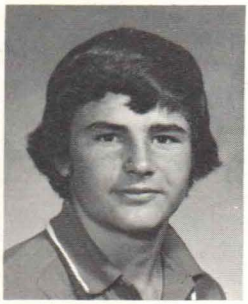
LEADING GOAL TENDERS — 1973-74

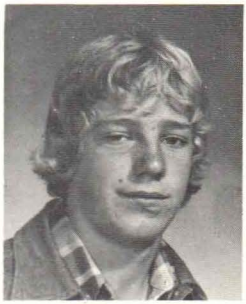
	GP.	Min.P.	G.A.	Ave.
Garth Malarchuk - Calgary	46	2317	118	3.0557
Ed Staniowski - Regina	62	3629	185	3.0587
Roger Swanson - Flin Flon	40	2209	122	3.31
Doug Allan - New West.	43	2420	139	3.45
Randy Ireland - Saskatoon	35	1883	124	3.96



Gord Williams

BLADE STICK BOYS

Blades have plenty of experience in the stick boy department. Gord Williams is now in his fourth year while Brent Ashton is in his second. Excellent hockey players and good athletes, both boys are now in high school — Gord at Walter Murray and Brent at Nutana.



Brent Ashton

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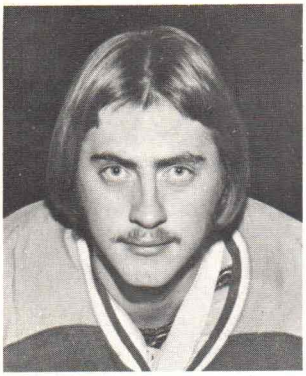
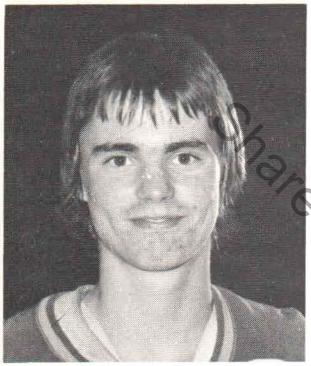


BILL OLESCHUK, first year, 19, 6-3, 200, goal — Bill, who hails from Edmonton, split the '73-'74 season between the S.A.J.H.L. and the W.C.H.L. He started the season with Swift Current Broncos, then went to the Prince Albert Raiders for two months before returning to finish out the season and the playoffs with the Broncos. Bill, looking somewhat like Ken Dryden due to his size, is a good standup goalie and should provide Blades with the necessary maturity in that department. He played his minor hockey and completed his high school in Edmonton where he returns in the off season.



RANDY IRELAND, second year, 17, 5-II, 155. Randy broke into the W.C.H.L. last season at age 16 after spending a year with the Estevan Bruins in the S.A.J.H.L. He played 35 games with the Blades in '73-'74 and ended up with a 3.96 goals against average — not bad for his rookie year at 16 years of age. "Stats", as he is called by his mates is not big by today's standards but he compensates for this with his quickness and great competitive spirit. In the summer months he keeps in shape playing baseball and fastball. He is currently taking his Grade XII at Evan Hardy Collegiate. The Blades are counting heavily this season on Randy whose home town is Biggar, Sask.

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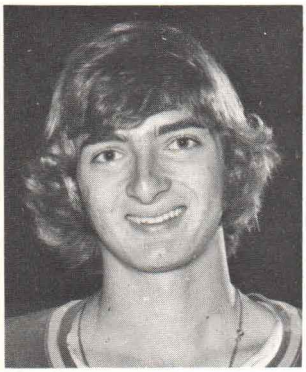
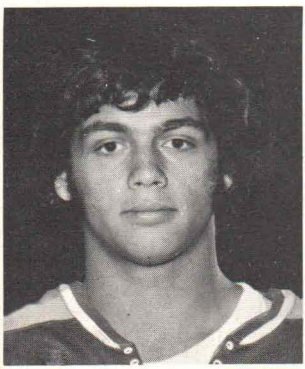
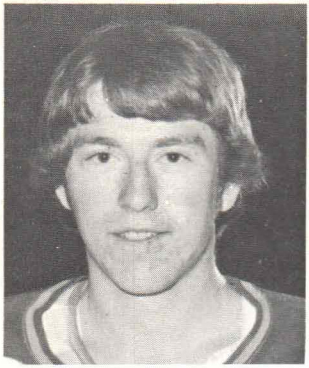


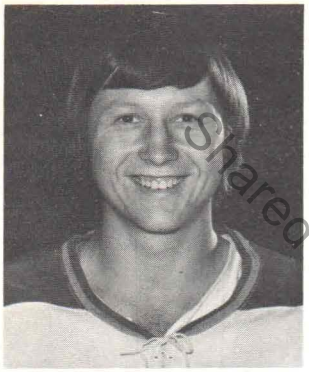
ROB CHAPMAN, second year, 19, 5-11, 165, defenceman — Rob having a rather slight build for this position, saw limited ice time last season. With the loss of three defencemen last spring, however, the Blades are counting on him to take up some of the slack. Rob makes up for his lack of size by being an excellent skater and a very heady player. A very ambitious person, in addition to playing hockey, he works part-time, and also is in second year Arts and Science at the University of Saskatchewan. If he ever invites you to join him in a game of golf, remember — he is a 3 handicapper! Rob's home is in Saskatoon.



PETER GOERTZ, first year, 17, 6-0, 185, defence — Peter saw lots of hockey action at the beginning of the '74-'75 season, as he was alternating between the Olympics and the Blades for the first month. A big tough guy for his age, Pete likes the rough going as evidenced by his 208 minutes in penalties last year with the O's in the S.A.J.H.L. He played his minor hockey with Evan Hardy Midgets and Juveniles before going to the Olympics. Peter played high school football until Grade X when he made the decision that it was hockey for him. A Grade XII student at Evan Hardy Collegiate this year, Pete plans to take some classes at University next season. His home is in Saskatoon.



BOB HOFFMEYER, second year, 19, 6-0, 180, defenceman — Bob is one of those real defensive defencemen which are so hard to come by these days. He played regularly last season in his rookie year and this year is expected to be the key man to Blades defensive corps. Not a prolific scorer, Bob plays his position well and knows when the time is right to carry the puck up ice. He is from Dodsland, Sask. and came to the Blades last year via the Prince Albert Raiders of the S.A.J.H.L. It is the opinion of many that Hoffmeyer will be one of the league's top defencemen come draft time. He is presently enrolled in Arts and Science at the University of Saskatchewan.



RICK SMITH, first year, 19, 5-10, 170, defence — Rick is another player who came to the Blades via the development team — the Olympics. He played for two seasons with the O's where last season he scored 10 goals and added 15 assists from his defensive slot. Smitty is one player who you can count on to give 100% effort game in, game out. Paired with second year man Bob Hoffmeyer, Rick is expected to add considerable strength to Blades blue line brigade. A Saskatoon boy, he played his midget hockey with the Wesleys. Rick is taking Arts and Science at the University of Saskatchewan.

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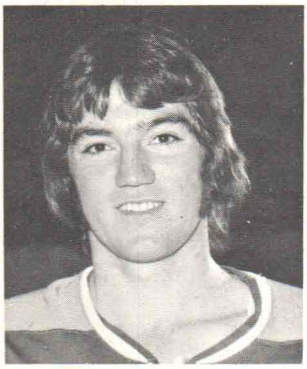
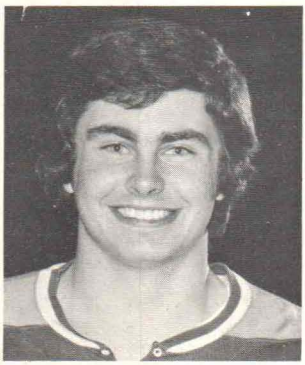
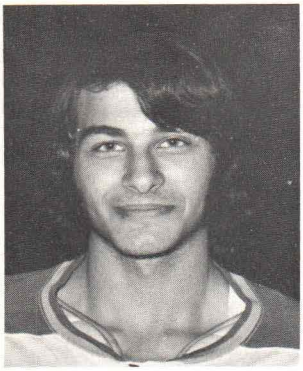


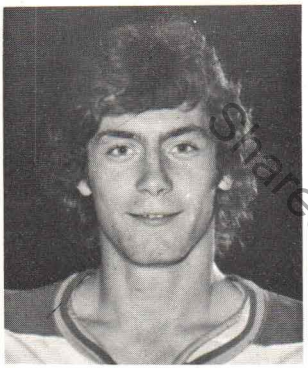
GLEN LEGGOTT, second year, 19, 5-10, 180, defenceman — Glen is the third member of Blades sophomore defencemen. A strong skater and deceptive stick handler, he managed 4 goals and 17 assists last season for 21 points — a mark which he should easily surpass this time around. "Legs," as he is known to his teammates, came to the Blades last year after spending a year in the S.A.J.H.L. with the Humboldt Broncos. Glen is originally from Drake, Sask.



FRED WILLIAMS, Fourth year, 18, 5-11, 180, left wing — Fred is one of few players who at 18 years of age is participating for his fourth season in the W.C.H.L. This suggests a "natural" hockey player — which he is. He skates smoothly and can stick handle with the best of them, and not only that, he has good size and enjoys playing the game. "Fats", as the boys call him, scored 16 goals and added 20 assists last season for the Blades while playing in all but one of the 68 league games. Coach McLeod feels that Fred will really come into his own season and that with any luck at all could double his output. A Saskatoon boy, he attends Aden Bowman Collegiate.



WES GEORGE, first year, 16, 6-2, 195, left wing — Each year at training camp, a surprise package shows up. This year it was Wes George, a well built fifteen year old from Young, Sask. Wes impressed right from the start and has the size and the ability to become one of the great ones. Last season he played Junior B hockey in Colonsay, plus some midget and senior in his home town. Wes made the step to Tier One Hockey this year and proved that he belonged in W.C.H.L. company by scoring a hat trick early in the season. He is a student at E. D. Feehan High School. In the summer months Wes keeps in shape on the farm in Young.



DAN ARNDT, third year, 19, 5-11, 175, left wing — One of the strongest forwards in the league, Dan has one of the hardest wrist shots in the business. He scored a club leading 42 goals in '73-'74 and in his rookie year had a creditable 38. Blades are counting on another productive season from Danny who could well be a contender for the league scoring championship in this his draft year. It is no secret that the big league scouts have their eyes on Dan. He was one of two Blade players chosen for the W.C.H.L. all-stars who played Team Canada '74 this fall, and he didn't disappoint anyone. Danny, a Saskatoon boy, played his minor hockey with Mount Royal, then went to the Saskatoon Olympics in the S.A.J.H.L. before joining the Blades in the '72-'73 season. An all round athlete, he was an outstanding halfback in highschool football, and he is an excellent baseball player.

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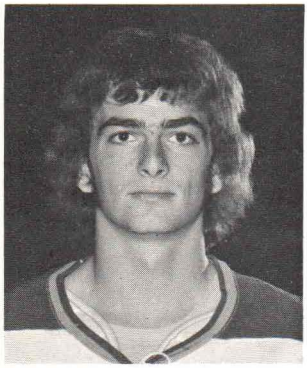
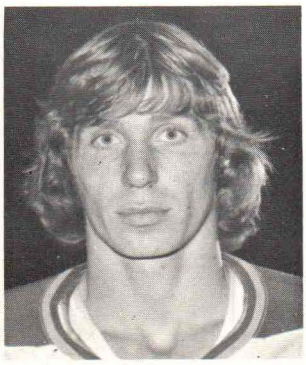
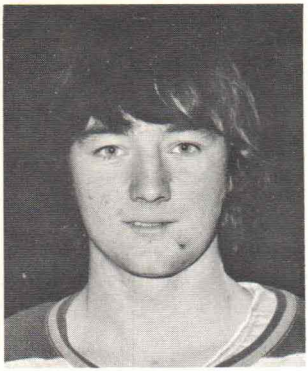


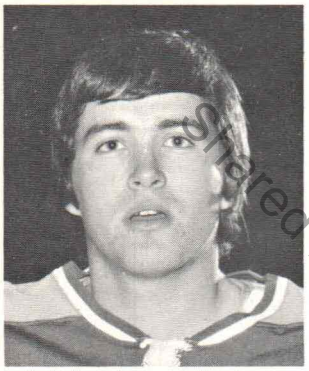
DELL CHAPMAN, first year, 17, 5-8-1/2, 155, centre — A brother to Rob, and a cousin to Blair, Dell brings to three the number of Chapmans now wearing Blade colors. A local boy, Dell was one of the Olympics leading lights last season with a record of 41-40-81. One of the smartest players for his age in the business, he can do everything well. Just a matter of time and experience should see Dell one of the W.C.H.L.'s top notchers. He played his minor hockey with the Bantam Blues before spending two seasons in Junior A company with the O's. He is currently taking his Grade XII at Aden Bowman Collegiate. Dell is also a very good golfer.



RALPH KLASSEN, fifth year, 19, 5-11, 175, centre — Ralph is another one of those rare people who is playing in his fifth year in junior company. Chosen as the club's most valuable player last season, Ralph is one of the most versatile players you will ever have the good fortune to have on your team. A very modest and dedicated person, Ralph was named to the league's all-star team last year and was picked for the W.C.H.L. all-stars who played against Team Canada '74 this fall. One of the most effective penalty killers in the league, Ralph finished third in the Blade point parade last season with 23 goals and 54 assists. A native of Muenster, Sask., Ralph has played more games in a Blade uniform than any other player. He should go high in the draft.



WES PETERS, first year, 18, 5-8, 160, right wing — Although not big by W.C.H.L. standards, Wes can really hold his own in the league due to his shifty skating and very accurate blistering shot. He comes to the Blades after a season with the Saskatoon Olympics of the S.A.J.H.L. where he scored 24 goals and added 45 assists for 69 points. Twenty of those goals were scored in the last half of the season when Wes really started hitting his stride. He was a member of the All-Star Midget Blazers in 1972-1973, and prior to that he performed for the North Star Pee Wees and Bantams, and Midget Anavets. Wes plays fastball in the summer months, and in the winter works part-time in addition to playing hockey.



BRIAN IRELAND, first year, 19, 6-1, 190, left wing — Brian, older brother of goalie Randy, was a late starter due to an ankle injury which he picked up playing baseball in the summer months. He has played in the S.A.J.H.L. for the past three seasons with the Estevan Bruins and was called up for a two game tryout with the Blades in 1973-1974. Brian scored 22 goals last season in the Provincial loop and coach McLeod feels the big winger will add considerable strength up front once he hits his stride. Having completed his Grade XII while playing in Estevan, Brian now is persuing farming in the off season at his home in Biggar, Sask.

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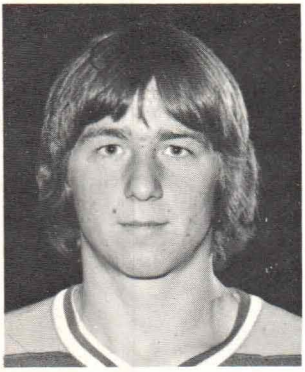
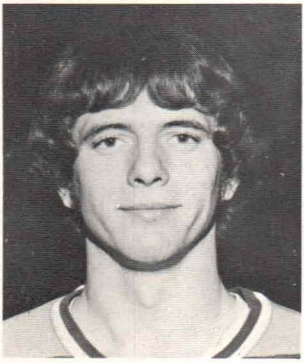
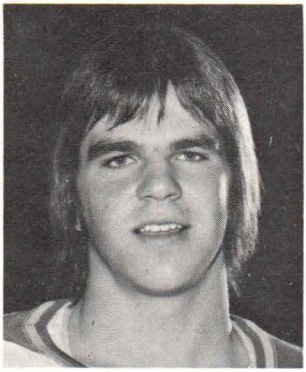


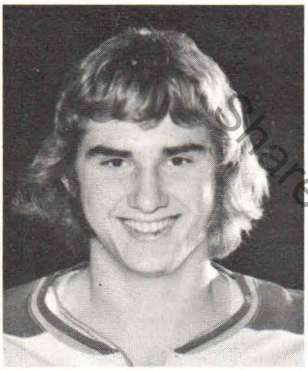
BERNIE FEDERKO, second year, 18, 6-0, 175, centre — Bernie, with one year of W.C.H.L. experience under his belt, now feels perfectly at home in this company. A very clever player, he gets the job done with the minimum of effort. "Magpie" as he has been dubbed due to his incessant chatter, came to the Blades last year from his home town of Foam Lake. He scored 22 goals and added 28 assists in his rookie year while attending E. D. Feehan Collegiate. He was awarded the Doug Bentley Memorial Scholarship as the Blade player best combining scholastics and hockey, and this year is attending the University of Saskatchewan with the intention of pursuing medicine.



RON VALADE, second year, 19, 5-9, 160, left wing — When Ron was called up from the Saskatoon Olympics last season, he was one of the leading marksmen in the S.A.J.H.L. He dressed for 37 games with the Blades last year, so this will be his first full season in the W.C.H.L. Ron is a good passer and possesses a good shot, a combination of assets which should get him a fair number of points this year. "Rudy" as he is known around the rink, is a Saskatoon boy who played his minor hockey in the Mount Royal system before graduating to the Olympics.



STAN GULUTZAN, first year, 17, 6-0, 200, forward — Stan was another one of those out-of-town boys who caught the eye of coach McLeod during fall training camp. He hails from Canora, Sask., where he played his minor hockey. Stan shoots left but can play any forward position. He has a good shot, has a nose for the puck, and is tough to shove away from the front of the net due to his size. He played two years of Junior B hockey with Canora scoring 52 goals and adding 59 assists in the '73-'74 season. He also likes other sports, especially curling, golfing and swimming. Stan is currently completing his Grade XII by correspondence.



BLAIR CHAPMAN, second year, 18, 5-11, 180, right wing — Blair came to the Blades in mid November last year, and became the team's second highest goal scorer despite the fact that he played in only 56 games. One of the best right wingers in the league Blair is a very strong skater, has some unbelievable moves, and can really wire that puck. Teamed on a line with Klassen and Arndt this season, the trio should form the most potent forward unit in the W.C.H.L. Blair's home is in Kelowna, B.C., and he is a cousin of Rob and Dell. He is also interested in flying.

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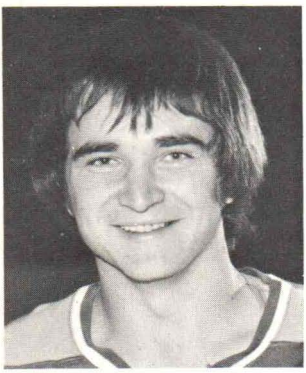
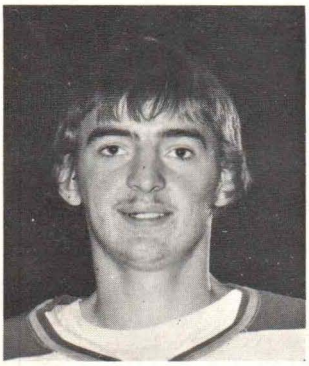
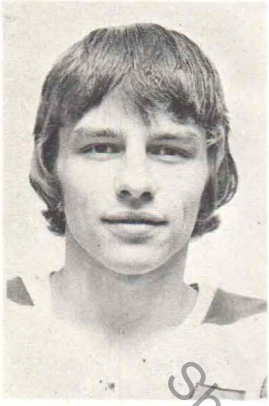


NEIL HAWRYLIW, second year, 19, 5-11, 180, right wing — Neil came to the Blades from the Humboldt Broncos after the season was under way last year. He played 52 league games in a Blade uniform and scored 22 goals and added 20 assists in his rookie season. "HaHa", as he is affectionately referred to, is a very fast skater, good back checker and hard shooter. He hails from Fielding, Sask., and played his minor hockey in Maymont before stepping up to Junior A ranks with Humboldt where he played for two seasons. He played short stop for the Saskatoon Merchants who represented Saskatchewan in the Dominion Fast Ball championships in Victoria last summer. Niel, who works part-time, would like to make it in hockey.

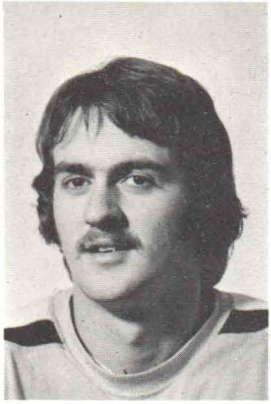


BRYAN BARON, first year, 17, 6-1, 170, defence — Bryan is another player who comes to the Blades after a season with the Saskatoon Olympics. Like Peter Goertz, he saw considerable action in the early going with both teams. A fairly quiet individual off the ice, Bryan plays for keeps, and has good potential at age seventeen. He is definitely in Blades future plans, as the club will be losing four defencemen at the end of the current season. Bryan played his minor hockey with the Area 2 Bantams and Wesley Midgets. A Saskatoon boy, he is presently taking his Grade XII at Mount Royal Collegiate. In the summer months Bryan plays baseball — last year he was a pticher for the T-Birds.

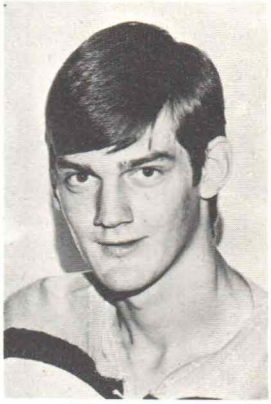
Some Impressive 1974 Graduates of other W.C.H.L. Teams



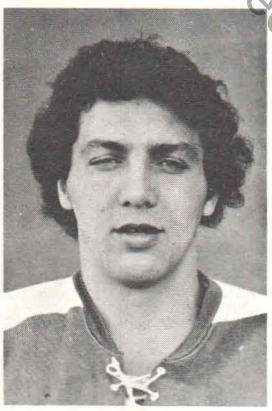
Dennis Sobchuk
Regina Pats



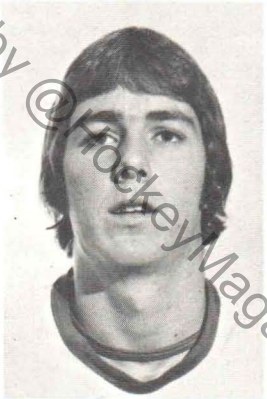
Ron Chipperfield
Brandon Wheat Kings



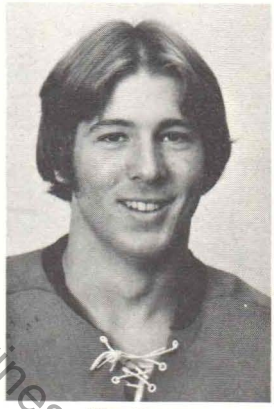
Ron Greshner
New Westminster Bruins



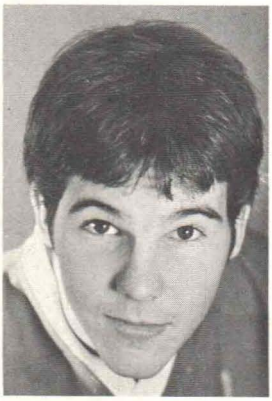
Dave Williams
Swift Current Broncos



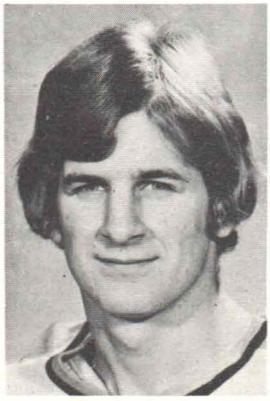
Randy Andreachuk
Kamloops Chiefs



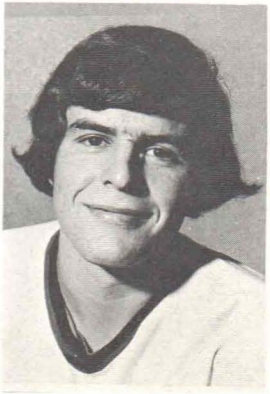
Mike Rogers
Calgary Centennials



Barry Legge
Winnipeg Clubs



Ken Gassoff
Medicine Hat Tigers



Brad Anderson
Victoria Cougars

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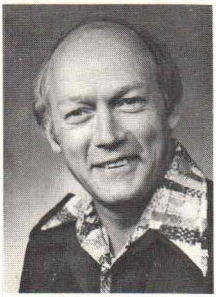
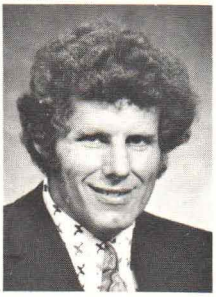
W.C.H.L. Coaches

EAST DIVISION

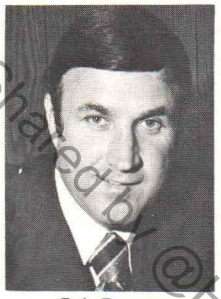


Norm Johnson
Brandon



Mel Pearson
Flin Flon

Earl Ingarfield
Lethbridge



Bob Turner
Regina

Jack McLeod
Saskatoon

Gord Pennell
Winnipeg

WEST DIVISION

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Edmonton

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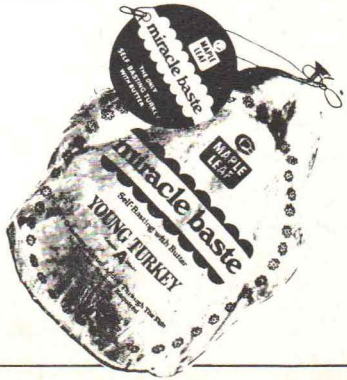
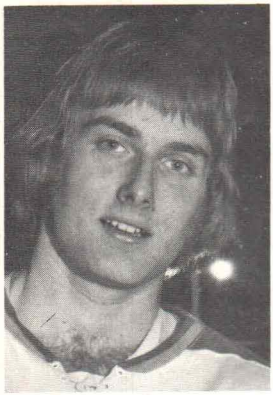
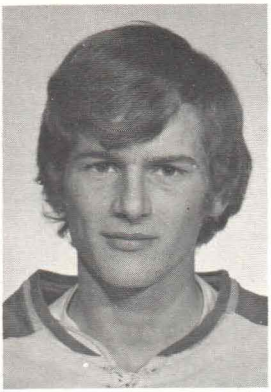


CANADA PACKERS

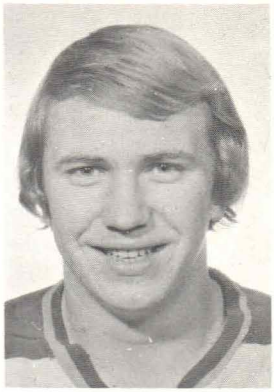
Last Year's Grads



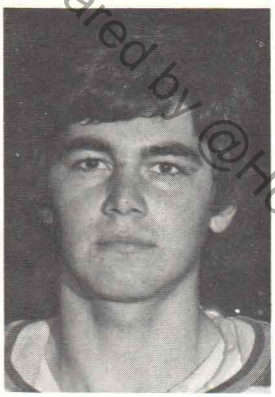
PAT PRICE
Vancouver Blazers
W.H.A.



BOB BOURNE
New York Islanders
N.H.L.



RON ASHTON
Winnipeg Jets
W.H.A.



MARTY FESCHUK
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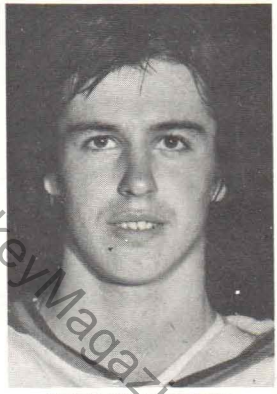
Now with Saginaw Gears I.H.L.



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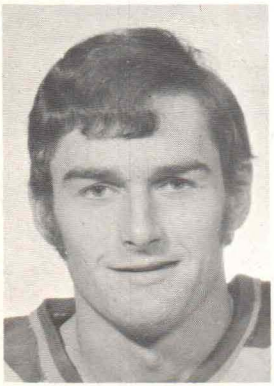
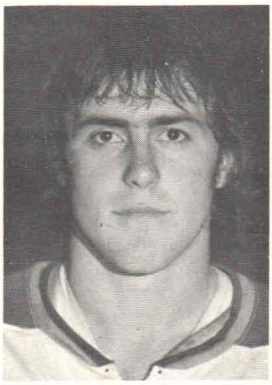
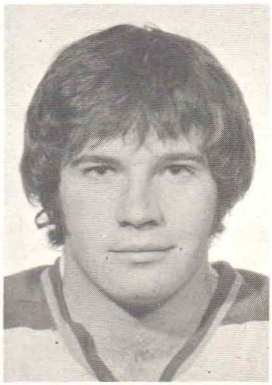


JOHN McIVOR
P.A. Raiders
S.A.J.H.L.



KEN ARNDT
University
of
Saskatchewan



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